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In re Application of:

Hans Rudolf MÜLLER et al.

Confirmation No.: 8617

AUG 10 2004

Serial No.: 10/030,693

Examiner: Tamthom Ngo Truong

Filed: January 14, 2002

Group Art Unit: 1624

Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF PURE STEREOISOMERS OF
TETRAHYDROFOLIC ACID ESTER SALTS AND TETRAHYDROFOLIC
ACID BY FRACTIONATED CRYSTALLISATION OF TETRAHYDROFOLIC
ACID ESTER SALTS (as amended)

COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants acknowledge the Notice of Allowability mailed 27 May 2004. However, applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's statement due to errors therein. Particularly, one exemplary embodiment of the invention pertains to a process for preparing and concentrating tetrahydrofolic acid ester salts and tetrahydrofolic acid, comprising preparing or dissolving equimolar or concentrated mixtures of diastereomers of addition salts of tetrahydrofolic acid esters with aromatic sulfonic acids in organic solvents. See, e.g., claim 1. Consequently, applicants respectfully submit that the claims are patentable over the cited art.

Respectfully submitted,

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO &
BRANIGAN, P.C.

Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400
2200 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22201
Telephone: (703) 243-6333
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

James E. Ruland, Reg. No. 37,432
Attorney for Applicants

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to (703) 872-9306 to the Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 9, 2004

Name:

Sharon McDonald

Signature:

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO & BRANIGAN, P.C.

Attorney Docket No.: EPROV-18Date: August 9, 2004

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